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## THE PROSE ACCENTS.\*

BY PROF. H. G. MITCHELL.

The works of Rev. William Wickes, D.D., on the Hebrew accents<sup>1</sup> have been universally recognized by scholars as making an era in the treatment of the subject. In the following tables I have attempted to present his scheme of prose accents in a form convenient for reference.

The first table shows which accent is used to mark the main dichotomy, i.e. the principal division in a clause closed by a given disjunctive.

## I.

## THE MAIN DICHOTOMY.

FINAL.	FIRST WORD.	SECOND WORD.	THIRD WORD.	FOURTH WORD.	FIFTH WORD.	SIXTH WORD.
—	— (—)	— (—) (—)	— (—)	— (—)	—	—
—	— (—)	— (—)	— (—) (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
—	—	— (—)	— (—)	—	—	
—	—	— (—)	— (—)	—	—	
—	—	— (—)	—	—		
—	—	— (—)	— (—)	— (—) (—)	— (—) (—)	— (—)
—	—	— (—)	— (—) (—)	— (—) (—)	— (—) (—)	—
—	—	— (—)	—	—		
—	—	— (—)	— (—)	— (—) (—)	— (—) (—)	—
—	—	— (—)	—	—		

\* Read in December 1889.

<sup>1</sup> *Treatise on the Accentuation of the Three so-called Poetical Books of the Old Testament, Psalms, Proverbs, and Job.* Oxford, 1881. *Treatise on the Accentuation of the Twenty-one so-called Prose Books of the Old Testament.* Oxford, 1887.

The explanation is simple. In *silluq's* clause (which is the whole verse) the main dichotomy, if on the word preceding the last, is marked by *tiphcha*, but sometimes by *athnach*; if on the second, by *athnach*, but sometimes by *tiphcha* or *zageph-qaton* etc.; *athnach* being the prevailing divider, especially at some distance from the end of the verse. In the first half of the verse, closed by *athnach*, the main dichotomy, if on the first (preceding) word, is marked by *tiphcha*, but sometimes by *zageph-qaton*, etc.

The minor dichotomy is the division of the clause included between a given disjunctive and the accent which marks the main dichotomy in its clause. The following table indicates what accents are used in such cases.

## II.

## THE MINOR DICHOTOMY.

FINAL.	FIRST WORD.	SECOND WORD.	THIRD WORD.	FOURTH WORD.	FIFTH WORD.
— 1	— c	— (1̇)	— 1̇	— 1̇	— 1̇
— 2	— c	— (2̇)	— 2̇	— 2̇	— 2̇
— 3	— c	— (3̇)	— (3̇)	— (3̇)	— (3̇)
— 4	— c	— (4̇)	— (4̇)	— (4̇)	— (4̇)
— 5	— c	— (5̇)	— (5̇)	— (5̇)	— (5̇)
— 6	— c	— (6̇)	— (6̇)	— (6̇)	— (6̇)
— 7	— c	— (7̇)	— (7̇)	— (7̇)	— (7̇)
— 8	— c	— (8̇)	— (8̇)	— (8̇)	— (8̇)
— 9	— c	— (9̇)	— (9̇)	— (9̇)	— (9̇)
— 10	— c	— (10̇)	— (10̇)	— (10̇)	— (10̇)
— 11	— c	— (11̇)	— (11̇)	— (11̇)	— (11̇)
— 12	— c	— (12̇)	— (12̇)	— (12̇)	— (12̇)
— 13	— c	— (13̇)	— (13̇)	— (13̇)	— (13̇)
— 14	— c	— (14̇)	— (14̇)	— (14̇)	— (14̇)
— 15	— c	— (15̇)	— (15̇)	— (15̇)	— (15̇)
— 16	— c	— (16̇)	— (16̇)	— (16̇)	— (16̇)
— 17	— c	— (17̇)	— (17̇)	— (17̇)	— (17̇)
— 18	— c	— (18̇)	— (18̇)	— (18̇)	— (18̇)
— 19	— c	— (19̇)	— (19̇)	— (19̇)	— (19̇)
— 20	— c	— (20̇)	— (20̇)	— (20̇)	— (20̇)
— 21	— c	— (21̇)	— (21̇)	— (21̇)	— (21̇)
— 22	— c	— (22̇)	— (22̇)	— (22̇)	— (22̇)
— 23	— c	— (23̇)	— (23̇)	— (23̇)	— (23̇)
— 24	— c	— (24̇)	— (24̇)	— (24̇)	— (24̇)
— 25	— c	— (25̇)	— (25̇)	— (25̇)	— (25̇)
— 26	— c	— (26̇)	— (26̇)	— (26̇)	— (26̇)
— 27	— c	— (27̇)	— (27̇)	— (27̇)	— (27̇)
— 28	— c	— (28̇)	— (28̇)	— (28̇)	— (28̇)
— 29	— c	— (29̇)	— (29̇)	— (29̇)	— (29̇)
— 30	— c	— (30̇)	— (30̇)	— (30̇)	— (30̇)
— 31	— c	— (31̇)	— (31̇)	— (31̇)	— (31̇)
— 32	— c	— (32̇)	— (32̇)	— (32̇)	— (32̇)
— 33	— c	— (33̇)	— (33̇)	— (33̇)	— (33̇)
— 34	— c	— (34̇)	— (34̇)	— (34̇)	— (34̇)
— 35	— c	— (35̇)	— (35̇)	— (35̇)	— (35̇)
— 36	— c	— (36̇)	— (36̇)	— (36̇)	— (36̇)
— 37	— c	— (37̇)	— (37̇)	— (37̇)	— (37̇)
— 38	— c	— (38̇)	— (38̇)	— (38̇)	— (38̇)
— 39	— c	— (39̇)	— (39̇)	— (39̇)	— (39̇)
— 40	— c	— (40̇)	— (40̇)	— (40̇)	— (40̇)
— 41	— c	— (41̇)	— (41̇)	— (41̇)	— (41̇)
— 42	— c	— (42̇)	— (42̇)	— (42̇)	— (42̇)
— 43	— c	— (43̇)	— (43̇)	— (43̇)	— (43̇)
— 44	— c	— (44̇)	— (44̇)	— (44̇)	— (44̇)
— 45	— c	— (45̇)	— (45̇)	— (45̇)	— (45̇)
— 46	— c	— (46̇)	— (46̇)	— (46̇)	— (46̇)
— 47	— c	— (47̇)	— (47̇)	— (47̇)	— (47̇)
— 48	— c	— (48̇)	— (48̇)	— (48̇)	— (48̇)
— 49	— c	— (49̇)	— (49̇)	— (49̇)	— (49̇)
— 50	— c	— (50̇)	— (50̇)	— (50̇)	— (50̇)
— 51	— c	— (51̇)	— (51̇)	— (51̇)	— (51̇)
— 52	— c	— (52̇)	— (52̇)	— (52̇)	— (52̇)
— 53	— c	— (53̇)	— (53̇)	— (53̇)	— (53̇)
— 54	— c	— (54̇)	— (54̇)	— (54̇)	— (54̇)
— 55	— c	— (55̇)	— (55̇)	— (55̇)	— (55̇)
— 56	— c	— (56̇)	— (56̇)	— (56̇)	— (56̇)
— 57	— c	— (57̇)	— (57̇)	— (57̇)	— (57̇)
— 58	— c	— (58̇)	— (58̇)	— (58̇)	— (58̇)
— 59	— c	— (59̇)	— (59̇)	— (59̇)	— (59̇)
— 60	— c	— (60̇)	— (60̇)	— (60̇)	— (60̇)
— 61	— c	— (61̇)	— (61̇)	— (61̇)	— (61̇)
— 62	— c	— (62̇)	— (62̇)	— (62̇)	— (62̇)
— 63	— c	— (63̇)	— (63̇)	— (63̇)	— (63̇)
— 64	— c	— (64̇)	— (64̇)	— (64̇)	— (64̇)
— 65	— c	— (65̇)	— (65̇)	— (65̇)	— (65̇)
— 66	— c	— (66̇)	— (66̇)	— (66̇)	— (66̇)
— 67	— c	— (67̇)	— (67̇)	— (67̇)	— (67̇)
— 68	— c	— (68̇)	— (68̇)	— (68̇)	— (68̇)
— 69	— c	— (69̇)	— (69̇)	— (69̇)	— (69̇)
— 70	— c	— (70̇)	— (70̇)	— (70̇)	— (70̇)
— 71	— c	— (71̇)	— (71̇)	— (71̇)	— (71̇)
— 72	— c	— (72̇)	— (72̇)	— (72̇)	— (72̇)
— 73	— c	— (73̇)	— (73̇)	— (73̇)	— (73̇)
— 74	— c	— (74̇)	— (74̇)	— (74̇)	— (74̇)
— 75	— c	— (75̇)	— (75̇)	— (75̇)	— (75̇)
— 76	— c	— (76̇)	— (76̇)	— (76̇)	— (76̇)
— 77	— c	— (77̇)	— (77̇)	— (77̇)	— (77̇)
— 78	— c	— (78̇)	— (78̇)	— (78̇)	— (78̇)
— 79	— c	— (79̇)	— (79̇)	— (79̇)	— (79̇)
— 80	— c	— (80̇)	— (80̇)	— (80̇)	— (80̇)
— 81	— c	— (81̇)	— (81̇)	— (81̇)	— (81̇)
— 82	— c	— (82̇)	— (82̇)	— (82̇)	— (82̇)
— 83	— c	— (83̇)	— (83̇)	— (83̇)	— (83̇)
— 84	— c	— (84̇)	— (84̇)	— (84̇)	— (84̇)
— 85	— c	— (85̇)	— (85̇)	— (85̇)	— (85̇)
— 86	— c	— (86̇)	— (86̇)	— (86̇)	— (86̇)
— 87	— c	— (87̇)	— (87̇)	— (87̇)	— (87̇)
— 88	— c	— (88̇)	— (88̇)	— (88̇)	— (88̇)
— 89	— c	— (89̇)	— (89̇)	— (89̇)	— (89̇)
— 90	— c	— (90̇)	— (90̇)	— (90̇)	— (90̇)
— 91	— c	— (91̇)	— (91̇)	— (91̇)	— (91̇)
— 92	— c	— (92̇)	— (92̇)	— (92̇)	— (92̇)
— 93	— c	— (93̇)	— (93̇)	— (93̇)	— (93̇)
— 94	— c	— (94̇)	— (94̇)	— (94̇)	— (94̇)
— 95	— c	— (95̇)	— (95̇)	— (95̇)	— (95̇)
— 96	— c	— (96̇)	— (96̇)	— (96̇)	— (96̇)
— 97	— c	— (97̇)	— (97̇)	— (97̇)	— (97̇)
— 98	— c	— (98̇)	— (98̇)	— (98̇)	— (98̇)
— 99	— c	— (99̇)	— (99̇)	— (99̇)	— (99̇)
— 100	— c	— (100̇)	— (100̇)	— (100̇)	— (100̇)

The second table is on the same plan as the first, and it is to be used in the same way. The similarity between the two arises from the fact that the minor dichotomy in a longer clause is generally marked by the same accent as the main dichotomy in a shorter one, when the two come at the same distance from the end.

The third table shows what conjunctives are used with the several disjunctives and in what order.

### III.

#### THE CONJUNCTIVES.

DISJ.	FIRST CONJ.	SECOND CONJ.	THIRD CONJ.	FOURTH CONJ.	FIFTH CONJ.	SIXTH CONJ.
1	2					
2	3	4				
3	4	5				
4	5	6				
5	6	7				
6	7 (8)	8				
7	8	9	10			
8	9 (10)	10 (11)	11	12	13	14
9	10 (11)	11 (12)	12	13		
10	11 (12)	12 (13)	13	14		
11	12 (13)	13	14	15	16	
12	13 (14)	14	15	16	17	
13	14 (15)	15	16	17	18	
14	15 (16)	16	17	18	19	20
15	16 (17)	17	18	19	20	
16	17 (18)	18	19	20	21	
17	18 (19)	19	20	21	22	
18	19 (20)	20	21	22	23	
19	20 (21)	21	22	23	24	
20	21 (22)	22	23	24	25	
21	22 (23)	23	24	25	26	
22	23 (24)	24	25	26	27	
23	24 (25)	25	26	27	28	
24	25 (26)	26	27	28	29	
25	26 (27)	27	28	29	30	
26	27 (28)	28	29	30	31	
27	28 (29)	29	30	31	32	
28	29 (30)	30	31	32	33	
29	30 (31)	31	32	33	34	
30	31 (32)	32	33	34	35	
31	32 (33)	33	34	35	36	
32	33 (34)	34	35	36	37	
33	34 (35)	35	36	37	38	
34	35 (36)	36	37	38	39	
35	36 (37)	37	38	39	40	
36	37 (38)	38	39	40	41	
37	38 (39)	39	40	41	42	
38	39 (40)	40	41	42	43	
39	40 (41)	41	42	43	44	
40	41 (42)	42	43	44	45	
41	42 (43)	43	44	45	46	
42	43 (44)	44	45	46	47	
43	44 (45)	45	46	47	48	
44	45 (46)	46	47	48	49	
45	46 (47)	47	48	49	50	
46	47 (48)	48	49	50	51	
47	48 (49)	49	50	51	52	
48	49 (50)	50	51	52	53	
49	50 (51)	51	52	53	54	
50	51 (52)	52	53	54	55	
51	52 (53)	53	54	55	56	
52	53 (54)	54	55	56	57	
53	54 (55)	55	56	57	58	
54	55 (56)	56	57	58	59	
55	56 (57)	57	58	59	60	
56	57 (58)	58	59	60	61	
57	58 (59)	59	60	61	62	
58	59 (60)	60	61	62	63	
59	60 (61)	61	62	63	64	
60	61 (62)	62	63	64	65	
61	62 (63)	63	64	65	66	
62	63 (64)	64	65	66	67	
63	64 (65)	65	66	67	68	
64	65 (66)	66	67	68	69	
65	66 (67)	67	68	69	70	
66	67 (68)	68	69	70	71	
67	68 (69)	69	70	71	72	
68	69 (70)	70	71	72	73	
69	70 (71)	71	72	73	74	
70	71 (72)	72	73	74	75	
71	72 (73)	73	74	75	76	
72	73 (74)	74	75	76	77	
73	74 (75)	75	76	77	78	
74	75 (76)	76	77	78	79	
75	76 (77)	77	78	79	80	
76	77 (78)	78	79	80	81	
77	78 (79)	79	80	81	82	
78	79 (80)	80	81	82	83	
79	80 (81)	81	82	83	84	
80	81 (82)	82	83	84	85	
81	82 (83)	83	84	85	86	
82	83 (84)	84	85	86	87	
83	84 (85)	85	86	87	88	
84	85 (86)	86	87	88	89	
85	86 (87)	87	88	89	90	
86	87 (88)	88	89	90	91	
87	88 (89)	89	90	91	92	
88	89 (90)	90	91	92	93	
89	90 (91)	91	92	93	94	
90	91 (92)	92	93	94	95	
91	92 (93)	93	94	95	96	
92	93 (94)	94	95	96	97	
93	94 (95)	95	96	97	98	
94	95 (96)	96	97	98	99	
95	96 (97)	97	98	99	100	
96	97 (98)	98	99	100	101	
97	98 (99)	99	100	101	102	
98	99 (100)	100	101	102	103	
99	100 (101)	101	102	103	104	
100	101 (102)	102	103	104	105	
101	102 (103)	103	104	105	106	
102	103 (104)	104	105	106	107	
103	104 (105)	105	106	107	108	
104	105 (106)	106	107	108	109	
105	106 (107)	107	108	109	110	
106	107 (108)	108	109	110	111	
107	108 (109)	109	110	111	112	
108	109 (110)	110	111	112	113	
109	110 (111)	111	112	113	114	
110	111 (112)	112	113	114	115	
111	112 (113)	113	114	115	116	
112	113 (114)	114	115	116	117	
113	114 (115)	115	116	117	118	
114	115 (116)	116	117	118	119	
115	116 (117)	117	118	119	120	
116	117 (118)	118	119	120	121	
117	118 (119)	119	120	121	122	
118	119 (120)	120	121	122	123	
119	120 (121)	121	122	123	124	
120	121 (122)	122	123	124	125	
121	122 (123)	123	124	125	126	
122	123 (124)	124	125	126	127	
123	124 (125)	125	126	127	128	
124	125 (126)	126	127	128	129	
125	126 (127)	127	128	129	130	
126	127 (128)	128	129	130	131	
127	128 (129)	129	130	131	132	
128	129 (130)	130	131	132	133	
129	130 (131)	131	132	133	134	
130	131 (132)	132	133	134	135	
131	132 (133)	133	134	135	136	
132	133 (134)	134	135	136	137	
133	134 (135)	135	136	137	138	
134	135 (136)	136	137	138	139	
135	136 (137)	137	138	139	140	
136	137 (138)	138	139	140	141	
137	138 (139)	139	140	141	142	
138	139 (140)	140	141	142	143	
139	140 (141)	141	142	143	144	
140	141 (142)	142	143	144	145	
141	142 (143)	143	144	145	146	
142	143 (144)	144	145	146	147	
143	144 (145)	145	146	147	148	
144	145 (146)	146	147	148	149	
145	146 (147)	147	148	149	150	
146	147 (148)	148	149	150	151	
147	148 (149)	149	150	151	152	
148	149 (150)	150	151	152	153	
149	150 (151)	151	152	153	154	
150	151 (152)	152	153	154	155	
151	152 (153)	153	154	155	156	
152	153 (154)	154	155	156	157	
153	154 (155)	155	156	157	158	
154	155 (156)	156	157	158	159	
155	156 (157)	157	158	159	160	
156	157 (158)	158	159	160	161	
157	158 (159)	159	160	161	162	
158	159 (160)	160	161	162	163	
159	160 (161)	161	162	163	164	
160	161 (162)	162	163	164	165	
161	162 (163)	163	164	165	166	
162	163 (164)	164	165	166	167	
163	164 (165)	165	166	167	168	
164	165 (166)	166	167	168	169	
165	166 (167)	167	168	169	170	
166	167 (168)	168	169	170	171	
167	168 (169)	169	170	171	172	
168	169 (170)	170	171	172	173	
169	170 (171)	171	172	173	174	
170	171 (172)	172	173	174	175	
171	172 (173)	173	174	175	176	
172	173 (174)	174	175	176	177	
173	174 (175)	175	176	177	178	
174	175 (176)	176	177	178	179	
175	176 (177)	177	178	179	180	
176	177 (178)	178	179	180	181	
177	178 (179)	179	180	181	182	
178	179 (180)	180	181	182	183	
179	180 (181)	181	182	183	184	
180	181 (182)	182	183	184	185	
181	182 (183)	183	184	185	186	
182	183 (184)	184	185	186	187	
183	184 (185)	185	186	187	188	
184	185 (186)	186	187	188	189	
185	186 (187)	187	188	189	190	
186	187 (188)	188	189	190	191	
187	188 (189)	189	190	191	192	
188	189 (190)	190	191	192	193	
189	190 (191)	191	192	193	194	
190	191 (192)	192	193	194	195	
191	192 (193)	193	194	195	196	
192	193 (194)	194	195	196	197	
193	194 (195)	195	196	197	198	
194	195 (196)	196	197	198	199	
195	196 (197)	197	198	199	200	
196	197 (198)	198	199	200	201	
197	198 (199)	199	200	201	202	
198	199 (200)	200	201	202	203	
199	200 (201)	201	202	203	204	
200	201 (202)	202	203	204	205	
201	202 (203)	203	204	205	206	
202	203 (204)	204	205	206	207	
203	204 (205)	205	206	207	208	
204	205 (206)	206	207	208	209	
205	206 (207)	207	208	209	210	
206	207 (208)	208	209	210	211	
207	208 (209)	209	210	211	212	

This table indicates the combinations possible. As a matter of fact, a given disjunctive may have fewer conjunctives than are here assigned to it, or even stand without any of them. If, however, it has any, it will have those here shown, and take them in the order in which they here appear.

The circumstances controlling the choice between two accents, in this as in preceding tables, must be learned from the text of Dr. Wickes's work.